

## 2015 SESSION

ENROLLED

### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 81

*Commending the Reverend Dr. Devlaming A. Peace, Sr.*

Agreed to by the Senate, February 5, 2015

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Devlaming A. Peace, Sr., has led Zion Bethel United Church of Christ in Portsmouth for 35 years, providing a shining example of service through faith, worship, and deed; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Devlaming "D.A." Peace, a native of Durham, North Carolina, and a graduate from Hillside High School, has been a devout student of biblical teachings for many years, starting with his college studies; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend D.A. Peace attended the American Bible College, and earned a bachelor's degree from Shaw University Divinity School and a master's degree from Union Christian Bible Institute, Inc.; his doctoral degree is from International Seminary; and

WHEREAS, in addition to serving the people of Zion Bethel United Church of Christ, the Reverend D.A. Peace works for the betterment of the Portsmouth area as president of the Zion Bethel Community Development Corporation; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend D.A. Peace is the dean and a teaching professor at Union Christian Bible Institute in Portsmouth and is president of the city's Southside Interdenominational Religious Coalition; and

WHEREAS, the people of Portsmouth have benefited from the Reverend D.A. Peace's wisdom and counsel; he is a long-standing member of the Portsmouth Civil Service Commission and is president of Black Development Resources, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend D.A. Peace has received many accolades over the years, including receiving the "Implement the King Dream" Award, sponsored by Unique K Productions, the Outstanding Service Award from the Southside Interdenominational Religious Coalition for serving as president for more than 20 years, and many other honors; and

WHEREAS, the hallmarks of the Reverend D.A. Peace's ministry at Zion Bethel United Church of Christ are his love of people and his leadership skills; he is a man whose faith is at the forefront of his life; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend D.A. Peace, who is known for his generous heart and loving spirit, is a servant leader who freely gives of his time and talents; these qualities bring people together and have resulted in a fruitful ministry at Zion Bethel United Church of Christ; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of Virginia, That the Reverend Dr. Devlaming A. Peace, Sr., hereby be commended on the occasion of his 35th anniversary as pastor of Zion Bethel United Church of Christ in Portsmouth; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Reverend Dr. Devlaming A. Peace, Sr., as an expression of the Senate of Virginia's respect and admiration for being a shining example of service to others and to the Commonwealth.

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